considered necessary in the interest of improving Indian Mercantile Marine Administration. The matter regarding setting up of Indian Maritime Service cadre out of this pool is under examination.

(c) No such proposal is pending with the Government.

Repayment of loans to Asian Development Bank

*163. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL:
SHRI AJAY MAROO:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highway Authority of India has defaulted in repayment of loans to the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officers responsible for this lapse?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) repaid the first instalment of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan amounting to US $ 43,08,820.36 (Rs. 19,14,40,889) for Surat-Manor Tollway Project on 10.01.2006, 9 days beyond the due date of 01.01.2006. The delay was due to lapse on part of the concerned officers.

(c) A fact finding enquiry has investigated into this lapse and based on the enquiry, one Dy. General Manager (Finance & Accounts) has been placed under suspension and one General Manager (Finance & Accounts) who was on deputation to the NHAI, has been repatriated to the parent organization.

Implementation of Central Right to Information Act

*164. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ensured that the Central Right to Information Act is being implemented throughout the country;

(b) whether any States are lagging behind; and